(C) Advance estimates of production of Fruits and Vegetables 2006-07

00'M. Tonnes

States	Fruits	Vegetables
Andaman & Nicobar	20.0	23.0
Andhra Pradesh	8816.8	3812.4
Arunachal Pradesh	107.9	N.A.
Haryana	240.0	3450.0
Himachal Pradesh	695.5	1175.0
Karnataka	4369.0	4834.5
Lakshdweep	1.1	4.2
Madhya Pradesh	1126.5	3288.1
Mizoram	25.0	28.0
Punjab	833.9	2654.4
Rajasthan	511.4	1511.1
Sikkim	13.5	44.2
Tamil Nadu	5252.0	7350.0
Uttar Pradesh	3758.4	16969.5
West Bengal**	2900.0	14909.0

N.A. - Not Available.

Data in respect of other States/UT's is not available.

** Excludes data for crops like Potato (Production 7106.6 thousands tonnes during 2004-05) and some leafy vegetables.

Waiving off the farmers' loans

266. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers in the country have approached the Prime Minister to waive off the loans given to the farmers in view of the suicides by the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the amount to be waived, State-wise and when;

(c) whether the Prime Minister has accepted the appraoch and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps expected to be taken for the protection of such farmers from committing suicide and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) On the 29th September, 2006 the Government of India approved a rehabilitation package for the farmers in 31 suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra involving total amount of Rs. 1697.69 crores which *inter-alia*, includes Rs. 2718.25 crores for waiver of interest on overdue agriculture loans as on 1st July, 2006. The state-wise details of interest waiver are as under:

Sl.No.	State	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1436.44 crore
2.	Karnataka	209.81 crore
3.	Kerala	360.00 crore
4.	Maharashtra	712.00 crore
TOTAL:		2718.25 crore

The rehabilitation package will be implemented over a period of 3 years and includes both immediate and medium term measures. The rehabilitation package aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services, and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries, etc.

Financial assistance for promotion and development of horticulture

267. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance granted to the States for promotion and development of horticulture during the last three years;